

**CONGRESSMAN SHERWOOD BOEHLERT (R-NY)**  
**OPENING STATEMENT FOR MARK-UP**  
**February 10, 2005**

I want to welcome everyone to our first mark-up of the year. I think that once again the Science Committee will set the standard for how an Energy Bill should be produced. The bill we have before us today is bipartisan and balanced. It addresses both supply and demand, both fossil fuels and renewables, both existing fuels and promising newer ones like hydrogen.

The bill, H.R. 610, is based on the conference report for last Congress' Energy Bill, H.R. 6. We have, however, improved the language and added some innovative new programs, particularly programs to demonstrate energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies.

The bill reflects suggestions from a range of Members on both sides of the aisle, including freshman Members, most notably Mr. Inglis. I want to congratulate Mrs. Biggert for introducing the measure.

I also want to thank her and Mr. Gordon and our respective staffs for working out the issues that remained after introduction of the bill. Mrs. Biggert will be offering a manager's amendment, which is also bipartisan and balanced, and which will improve the bill further.

I predict a smooth mark-up that should serve us well as a comprehensive bill is pieced together for the House floor.